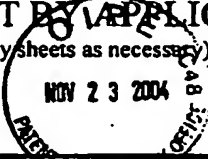


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → (+)

PTO/SB08A (08-03)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

<p style="text-align: center;">Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(use as many sheets as necessary)</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>SHEET 1 of 1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/658,031</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Confirmation Number</td> <td>Not available</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>September 9, 2003</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Paulus A. A. Höfte et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>Not available</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Not available</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>9028</td> </tr> </table>	Application Number	10/658,031	Confirmation Number	Not available	Filing Date	September 9, 2003	First Named Inventor	Paulus A. A. Höfte et al.	Group Art Unit	Not available	Examiner Name	Not available	Attorney Docket Number	9028
Application Number	10/658,031														
Confirmation Number	Not available														
Filing Date	September 9, 2003														
First Named Inventor	Paulus A. A. Höfte et al.														
Group Art Unit	Not available														
Examiner Name	Not available														
Attorney Docket Number	9028														

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	DOCUMENT NUMBER		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup>	(If known)			
#1		US-3802606 A		04-09-1974	Gust	
		US-5732853 A		03-31-1998	Everhardus et al. Sanzeboom et al.	
		US-5875921 A		03-02-1999	Osgar et al.	
		US-6206058 A		03-27-2001	Atkinson et al. Nagel et al.	
#1		US-6388392 B1		05-14-2002	Argentieri et al.	
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				

11-2-06

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>4</sup>
		Country Code <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>3</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (If known)				
#1		DE	11 53 497 B		08-29-1963	Emil Kock		
		EP	1 075 817 A		02-14-2001	Bischof et al.		
		EP	1 180 343 A		02-20-2002	Avet		
#1		GB	555 197 A		08-10-1943	Albert et al.		

EXAMINER <i>Thuyen Le</i>	DATE CONSIDERED 03-15-06
---------------------------	--------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 37 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.